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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/632,062	07/31/2003	Michel Betancourt	RSW920030145US1	2039
36736	7590	03/19/2007	EXAMINER	
DUKE W. YEE			PUENTE, EMERSON C	
YEE & ASSOCIATES, P.C.				
P.O. BOX 802333			ART UNIT	
DALLAS, TX 75380			PAPER NUMBER	
			2113	
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE		MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE	
3 MONTHS		03/19/2007	PAPER	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/632,062

Applicant(s)

BETANCOURT ET AL.

Examiner

Emerson C. Puente

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 January 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-5 and 7-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-5 and 7-10 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 11-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 31 July 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

This action is made **Final**. Claims 1,3-5, and 7-22 have been examined.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claims 20-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

In regards to claim 20-22, the claimed "computer readable medium" as described in the specification page(s) 21, lines 15-22, includes, among other examples, transmission-type media, such as digital and analog communication links, wired or wireless communications links using transmission forms, such as radio frequency and light wave transmission, which is nonstatutory. As such, the claim is not limited to statutory subject matter and is therefore non-statutory. Examiner suggests amending "computer readable medium" to "computer recordable media".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 11-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 5,590,335 of Dubourreau et al. referred hereinafter "Dubourreau" in view of Applicant's Admitted Prior Art referred hereinafter "AAPA".

In regards to claim 11, Dubourreau discloses a method of analyzing thread deadlocks, comprising the steps of:

obtaining a thread dump file. Dubourreau discloses when a deadlock occurs, one can call on a tool for analyzing memory dumps (see column 6 lines 63-67).

identifying waiting threads. Dubourreau discloses determine if the thread is waiting for another lock (see column 4 lines 25-27).

identifying locking threads. Dubourreau discloses searching for threads that holds a lock (see column 4 line 25-27).

comparing waiting threads and locking threads to identify threads in a self wait condition. Dubourreau discloses a traditional deadlock analysis process for identifying deadlock (see figure 1 and column 4 lines 8-10). Dubourreau further discloses if node N appears twice on the list, then the graph contains a cycle, identifying a deadlock (see column 4 lines 34-46). If the same thread is displayed in the list without another thread being displayed, then a deadlock in the self wait condition is detected.

However, Dubourreau fails to explicitly disclose:

analyzing deadlocks in a Java virtual machine.

However, AAPA disclose Java virtual machine supports multithreading, which is vulnerable to deadlock situations (see page 3 lines 5-7 and page 4 lines 15-16).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teachings of Dubourreau onto a Java virtual machine, as disclosed in AAPA. A person of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to combine the teachings because Java virtual machine, as per teachings of AAPA, supports multithreading, and hence is vulnerable to deadlock situations (see page 3 lines 5-7 and page 4 lines 15-16), and analyzing deadlocks, as per teachings of Dubourreau, enables identification of the cause of the deadlock, enabling modification of programming more effectively (see column 3 lines 45-52).

In regards to claim 12, Dubourreau in view of AAPA discloses the claim limitations as discussed above. Dubourreau further discloses comparing waiting threads and locking threads to identify threads in a circular wait condition. Dubourreau discloses detecting a cycle in the graph, indicating that a deadlock has been found involving the processes (threads) and resources in said cycle (see column 4 lines 27-29). If the cycle includes more than one thread (such as the one described in column 1 lines 34-41), then a circular wait condition is identified.

In regards to claim 13, Dubourreau in view of AAPA discloses the claim limitations as discussed above. Dubourreau further discloses wherein the step of obtaining a thread dump file comprises obtaining a thread dump from a live JVM. Dubourreau discloses analyzing memory dumps of a machine that is in operation (see column 6 lines 59-63) and AAPA discloses a JVM (see page 3 lines 5-7 and page 4 lines 15-16).

In regards to claim 14, Dubourreau in view of AAPA discloses the claim limitations as discussed above. Dubourreau further discloses wherein the step of obtaining a thread dump file comprises opening an existing thread dump file. Dubourreau discloses when a deadlock occurs, one can call on a tool for analyzing memory dumps (see column 6 lines 63-67).

In regards to claim 15, Dubourreau in view of AAPA discloses the claim limitations as discussed above. Dubourreau further discloses wherein the existing thread dump file is analyzed in offline mode. Dubourreau discloses analyzing memory dumps when there is a deadlock and the machine becomes unavailable (see column 6 lines 63 to column 7 line 3).

In regards to claim 16, Dubourreau in view of AAPA discloses the claim limitations as discussed above. Dubourreau further discloses wherein a user interface allows a user to choose rules, and wherein the rules are used to exclude threads from being identified as in a deadlock condition. Dubourreau discloses a user can interactively, indicating a user interface, call on a tool when a deadlock occurs to analyze a memory dump (see column 6 lines 63-67). The tool runs the process with rules that identifies threads in a cycle (see column 4 lines 30), indicating deadlock threads. Threads not in a cycle are threads not in a deadlock condition, indicating threads that do not follow rules and hence excluded from identification as deadlock threads.

In regards to claim 17, Dubourreau discloses a system for analyzing thread deadlocks, comprising the steps of:

means for obtaining a thread dump file. Dubourreau discloses when a deadlock occurs, one can call on a tool for analyzing memory dumps (see column 6 lines 63-67).

means for identifying waiting threads. Dubourreau discloses determine if the thread is waiting for another lock (see column 4 lines 25-27).

means for identifying locking threads. Dubourreau discloses searching for threads that holds a lock (see column 4 line 25-27).

means for comparing waiting threads and locking threads to identify threads in a self wait condition. Dubourreau discloses a traditional deadlock analysis process for identifying deadlock (see figure 1 and column 4 lines 8-10). Dubourreau further discloses if node N appears twice on the list, then the graph contains a cycle, identifying a deadlock (see column 4 lines 34-46). If the same thread is displayed in the list without another thread being displayed, then a deadlock in the self wait condition is detected.

However, Dubourreau fails to explicitly disclose:

analyzing deadlocks in a Java virtual machine.

However, AAPA disclose Java virtual machine supports multithreading, which is vulnerable to deadlock situations (see page 3 lines 5-7 and page 4 lines 15-16).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teachings of Dubourreau onto a Java virtual machine, as disclosed in AAPA. A person of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to combine the teachings because Java virtual machine, as per teachings of AAPA, supports multithreading, and hence is vulnerable to deadlock situations (see page 3 lines 5-7 and page 4 lines 15-16), and analyzing deadlocks, as per teachings of Dubourreau, enables identification of the cause of the deadlock, enabling modification of programming more effectively (see column 3 lines 45-52).

In regards to claim 18, Dubourreau in view of AAPA discloses the claim limitations as discussed above. Dubourreau further discloses means for comparing waiting threads and locking threads to identify threads in a circular wait condition. Dubourreau discloses detecting a cycle in the graph, indicating that a deadlock has been found involving the processes (threads) and

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resources in said cycle (see column 4 lines 27-29). If the cycle includes more than one thread (such as the one described in column 1 lines 34-41), then a circular wait condition is identified.

In regards to claim 19, Dubourreau in view of AAPA discloses the claim limitations as discussed above. Dubourreau further discloses wherein thread deadlocks are analyzed in offline mode. Dubourreau discloses analyzing memory dumps when there is a deadlock and the machine becomes unavailable (see column 6 lines 63 to column 7 line 3).

In regards to claim 20, Dubourreau discloses a computer program product in a computer readable medium for analyzing thread deadlocks in a Java virtual machine, comprising:

first instructions for obtaining a thread dump file. Dubourreau discloses when a deadlock occurs, one can call on a tool for analyzing memory dumps (see column 6 lines 63-67).

second instructions for identifying waiting threads. Dubourreau discloses determine if the thread is waiting for another lock (see column 4 lines 25-27).

third instructions for identifying locking threads. Dubourreau discloses searching for threads that holds a lock (see column 4 line 25-27).

fourth instructions for comparing waiting threads and locking threads to identify threads in a self wait condition. Dubourreau discloses a traditional deadlock analysis process for identifying deadlock (see figure 1 and column 4 lines 8-10). Dubourreau further discloses if node N appears twice on the list, then the graph contains a cycle, identifying a deadlock (see column 4 lines 34-46). If the same thread is displayed in the list without another thread being displayed, then a deadlock in the self wait condition is detected.

However, Dubourreau fails to explicitly disclose:

analyzing deadlocks in a Java virtual machine.

However, AAPA disclose Java virtual machine supports multithreading, which is vulnerable to deadlock situations (see page 3 lines 5-7 and page 4 lines 15-16).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teachings of Dubourreau onto a Java virtual machine, as disclosed in AAPA. A person of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to combine the teachings because Java virtual machine, as per teachings of AAPA, supports multithreading, and hence is vulnerable to deadlock situations (see page 3 lines 5-7 and page 4 lines 15-16), and analyzing deadlocks, as per teachings of Dubourreau, enables identification of the cause of the deadlock, enabling modification of programming more effectively (see column 3 lines 45-52).

In regards to claim 21, Dubourreau in view of AAPA discloses the claim limitations as discussed above. Dubourreau further discloses fifth instructions for comparing waiting threads and locking threads to identify threads in a circular wait condition. Dubourreau discloses detecting a cycle in the graph, indicating that a deadlock has been found involving the processes (threads) and resources in said cycle (see column 4 lines 27-29). If the cycle includes more than one thread (such as the one described in column 1 lines 34-41), then a circular wait condition is identified.

In regards to claim 22, Dubourreau in view of AAPA discloses the claim limitations as discussed above. Dubourreau further discloses wherein thread deadlocks are analyzed in offline mode. Dubourreau discloses analyzing memory dumps when there is a deadlock and the machine becomes unavailable (see column 6 lines 63 to column 7 line 3).

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1, 3-5, and 7-10 are allowed.

The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: Claims 1, 3-5, and 7-10 are allowable over the prior art of record because the Examiner found neither prior art cited in its entirety, nor based on the prior art, found any motivation to combine any of the said prior arts.

The reason for allowance for claim 1 is the inclusion of the tool excluding threads that do not meet the criteria from being identified on the user interface as deadlock threads even though the threads were identified as being deadlock threads pursuant to the thread dump analysis in conjunction with the rest of the limitation set forth in the claim.

The reason for allowance for claim 5 is the inclusion of wherein deadlock threads that do not meet the criteria are filtered such that they are not presented to the user by the user interface even though the threads that do not meet the criteria were identified as being deadlock threads pursuant to the thread dump analysis in conjunction with the rest of the limitation set forth in the claim.

The remaining claims, not specifically mentioned, are allowed for being dependent upon one of the claims above.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed January 4, 2007 have been fully considered but they are not deemed to be persuasive.

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In response to applicant's amendment pertaining to claims 20-22 (see page 7), the amendment has not overcome the 101 rejection set forth in the office action. Examiner has maintained his rejection.

Regarding applicant's argument that AAPA falls under 102(e)/103(c) rejection (see page 7), examiner respectfully disagrees. AAPA falls under 102(a)/103(a) rejection and as such, is accordingly applied. Argument is moot. Examiner maintains his rejection.

In response to applicant's argument pertaining to claim 1,3-5, and 6-10, examiner disagrees. However, the examiner note applicant has amended claim 1 and 5 to included additional limitations in addition to the limitations set forth in original claim 2. These additional limitations, as indicated above, in conjunction with the rest of the limitation set forth make the claims allowable.

In response to applicant's argument pertaining to claim 11 (see page 9), examiner respectfully disagrees. Dubourreau discloses a traditional deadlock analysis process for identifying deadlock (see figure 1 and column 4 lines 8-10). Dubourreau further discloses if node N appears twice on the list, then the graph contains a cycle, identifying a deadlock (see column 4 lines 34-46). If the same thread is displayed in the list without another thread being displayed, then a deadlock in the self wait condition is detected. Argument is moot. Examiner maintains his rejection.

In response to applicant's argument pertaining to claim 16 (see page 9), examiner respectfully disagrees. Dubourreau discloses a user can interactively, indicating a user interface, call on a tool when a deadlock occurs to analyze a memory dump for identifying deadlock conditions (see column 6 lines 63-67). The tool would necessarily need steps or rules to follow,

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such as the algorithm of figure 1, to identify cycles or deadlocks, indicating rules. When the user calls the tool to identify cycles or deadlock conditions, the user chooses rules to identify deadlock conditions. Threads not in a cycle are threads not in a deadlock condition, indicating threads that do not follow rules and hence excluded from identification as deadlock threads.

Argument is moot. Examiner maintains his rejection.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

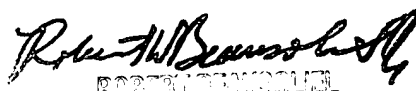
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Emerson C. Puente whose telephone number is (571) 272-3652. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-5 M-F.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert W. Beausoliel can be reached on (571) 272-3645. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

ecp


ROBERT W. BEAUSOLIEL
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